

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RANDY G. MASSEY
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

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BELLEVILLE MAN SENTENCED FOR THREATENING THE PRESIDENT

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **ARAFAT NIJMEH**, age 27, of Belleville, Illinois has been sentenced to 7 months' imprisonment for threatening bodily harm to President George W. Bush, to be followed by a term of 3 years' supervised release.

NIJMEH pled guilty as charged in U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois on November 28, 2006, to a two-count federal indictment charging him with threatening the President on March 18, 2006, and again on March 19, 2006. **NIJMEH** was confined at the Alton Mental Health Center when he made both threats.

NIJMEH was sentenced immediately after entering his guilty pleas. **NIJMEH** had already served 8 months in federal custody while awaiting trial.

The investigation which resulted in **NIJMEH**'s conviction was conducted by Special Agents of the United States Secret Service. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Garrison.